

Appl. No. 10/051,094
Amendment dated: December 19, 2003
Reply to OA dated: August 20, 2003

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 1, 7, 8, 10-15, and 19, canceled claims 6 and 20-24, and added claim 25. All of the amendments are fully supported by the original disclosure of this application and therefore do not constitute the introduction of any new matter or new issues into this case.

Entry of the proposed amendments, which will not require a new search or consideration of new issues is respectfully requested. It is believed at the amendments do not raise substantive issues that were not previously considered by Examiner.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that dependent claims 6-18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Allowable claims 6, 7 and 11-15 have been combined with claim 1 and written as independent claims 1, 7, and 11-15, respectively. Remaining claims 2-5, 8-10, and 16-19 are directly or indirectly dependent on allowable claims 1, 7, and 11-15. Therefore, Applicant most respectfully submitted that claims 1-5 and 7-19 are clearly patentable over the references of record.

In the electron tube recited in the newly added claim 25, the ring-less getter of the present invention is mounted in a vessel of the electron tube without using a container and is in a form of a pellet, as supported by originally filed specification, page 12, lines 10-15, and page 21, lines 1-2.

On the contrary, the getter structure of Cho (USPN 5,977,706) is located in auxiliary compartment 72 and bonded to baseplate structure 40 along its exterior surface(see column 17, lines 9-11 and Fig. 7a). In other words, the getter material of Cho is positioned by using the container at outside of the vessel.

And also, Wallace (USPN 5,689,151) discloses a getter material 29 deposited on the substrate 26 between the conductive regions 28 of the anode plate 10 (see abstract) and the getter material is obtained by spinning a TEOS solution on the surface of anode plate 10 (see column 5, lines 40-42). Therefore, Wallace is equivalent to the prior art recited in the specification of the present invention (see page 5, lines 13-20). In other words, Wallace has problems identical to those of the prior art of the present

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invention, in which the glass substrate may be locally over-heated depending on a radiation time duration of a laser beam irradiated thereon, thereby entailing a development of a crack in the substrate, as disclosed in page 5, line 21 to page 6, line 1.

Further, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, there is no suggestion or motivation to modify the references or to combine reference teachings. Furthermore, even assuming, arguendo, that such combination were proper, such combination still cannot render claim 25 obvious because neither Cho nor Wallace discloses or implies the invention recited in claim 25. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the newly added claim 25 defines a patentable invention over Wallace and Cho and is, therefore, allowable and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicants believe that this is a full and complete response to the Office Action. For the reasons discussed above, applicants now respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in complete condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is requested that claims 1-5 and 7-19 and newly added claim 25 be allowed in their present form. If the Examiner feels that any issues that remain require discussion, he is kindly invited to contact applicant's undersigned attorney to resolve the issues.

In view of the above comments and further amendments to the claims, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims now present in the application are most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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